

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of smoothing the transition to the adjusted state of play.

13. – 19. (withdrawn)

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully affirms the election, with traverse and without conceding to the Examiner's characterizations, of Claims 1 to 12, as discussed with the Examiner via telephone on June 9, 2004 and withdraws Claims 13 to 19. Applicant further cancels Claims 1-10 without conceding to the Examiner's characterizations and/or objections.

Claims 11 and 12 have been objected to as being dependant upon a rejected base claim, but have been set forth as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant submits that this objection has been overcome by the Amendments made herein.

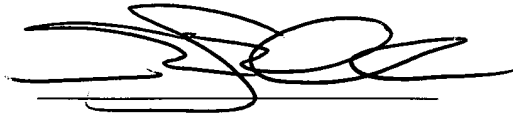
Applicant notes, with appreciation, the Examiner's conclusion that Claims 11 and 12 are directed to patentable subject matter.

Applicant has rewritten Claim 11 in independent form including the limitations of intervening claims. Applicant respectfully submits that the objection of Claim 11 has been overcome and Claim 11 is in condition for allowance, having been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and the intervening claims. Further, Applicant submits that Claim 12 is in a condition for allowance at least because it depends from a patentable base Claim 11.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance, early notice of which is earnestly solicited. Should there be any questions or other matter whose resolution may be advanced by a telephone call, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TJ McWilliams', written over a horizontal line.

THOMAS J. MCWILLIAMS
Reg. No. 44,930
TODD A. NORTON
Reg. No. 48,636
REED SMITH LLP
1650 Market Street
One Liberty Place
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Phone 215.851.8100
Fax 215.851.1420